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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation;

Proposed Renewal of Existing Collection; Comment request

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506 (c) (2) (A)] This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: Notice of Final Payment or Suspension of Compensation Benefits (LS-208). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the address section of this Notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before [INSERT 60-DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Mr. Vincent Alvarez, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Room S-3201, Washington, D.C. 20210, telephone (202) 693-0372, fax (202) 693-2447, Email Alvarez.Vincent@dol.gov. Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or Email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. Background:

The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA). The Act provides benefits to workers' injured in maritime employment on the navigable waters of the United States or in an adjoining area customarily used by an employer in loading, unloading, repairing, or building a vessel. In addition, several acts extend the Longshore Act's coverage to certain other employees.

Under Section 914(g) of the Longshore Act, the employer or its insurance carrier must file a report of the compensation paid to a claimant at the time final payment is made. The Act requires that the form must be filed within sixteen days of the final payment of compensation with the District Director in the compensation

district in which the injury occurred. The form requests information regarding the beginning and ending dates of compensation payments, compensation rates, reason payments were terminated and types and amount of compensation payments. Filing of the report is mandatory, and failure to do so is subject to a civil penalty. This information collection is currently approved for use through January 31, 2012.

II. Review Focus: The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- * evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- * evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- * enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- * minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions: The Department of Labor seeks the extension of approval of this information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to meet the statutory requirements to provide compensation or death benefits under the Act to workers covered by the Act.

Agency: Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

Type of Review: Extension

Title: Notice of Final Payment or Suspension of Compensation Benefits

OMB Number: 1240-0041

Agency Number: LS-208

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Total Respondents: 600

Total Annual Responses: 21,000

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 5,250

Estimated Time Per Response: 15 minutes

Frequency: On occasion

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$16,590

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

DATED: October 26, 2011

Vincent Alvarez
Agency Clearance Officer,
Office of Workers' Compensation Programs
US Department of Labor

Billing Code No. 4510-CF-P

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